New agricultural Policy

*89. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have lately evolved a new Agricultural Policy; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) and (b) A draft Agriculture Policy Resolution (APR) was placed in Parliament on 14th May, 1993. The main objective of the APR is to accelerate alround development and economic viability of agriculture sector. It also aims at infusing new dynamish through public investments in infrastructural development and a much greater impetus for private investments. An economic climate will be created for increasing farmers' own investments and efforts through a favourable price and trade regime, thereby increasing their income levels.

Ban on production of Gur

*90. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:
SYED SIBTEY RAZI:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to ban production of Gur;

(b) if so, the details of the objectives;

(c) whether the ban on Gur production is likely to boost the production of sugar and result in reduction of retail price in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Privatisation of Publication of text Books

*91. SHRIMATI CHANDRAKALA PANDEY:
SHRI MD. SALIM:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a survey conducted by the NCERT sponsored by the World Bank recently;

(b) whether the results of this survey suggest the privatisation of the process of publication of text books; and

(c) whether Government propose to endorse this approach of privatising text book publication?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) No, Sir. However, a study financed by UNICEF on designing, production and distribution of Instructional materials was conducted by the National Council of Educational Research and Training in 1993-94, as a project preparation study for the District Primary Education Programme. National Council of Educational Research and Training had also set up a committee in 1993-94 to review the policy and procedure of appointment of wholesale agents of National Council of Educational Research and Training publications.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.